

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a laminated stator core, comprising the steps of:

forming a band-shaped yoke core piece having a shape that a yoke of the laminated stator core is developed in a straight line and having concave connection portions in the inner circumferential edge thereof by punching a metal plate;

forming a laminated yoke body by winding and laminating the band-shaped yoke core piece in a spiral shape and coupling the laminated band-shaped yoke core piece using a caulking procedure;

forming a magnetic core piece having a convex connection portion at the base end thereof by punching a metal plate;

forming a laminated magnetic body by laminating and coupling a predetermined number of the magnetic core pieces to each other using a caulking procedure; and

coupling the laminated yoke body and the laminated magnetic body to each other by winding a coil around the laminated magnetic body and then inserting the convex connection portions into the concave connection portions,

wherein the band-shaped yoke core piece formed in forming the band-shaped yoke core piece has a shape that a yoke of the laminated stator core is developed in a straight line and concave connection portions and arc-shaped caulking

portions having a plane shape curved in a winding direction are arranged with a constant pitch in the inner circumferential edge thereof,

wherein in forming the laminated yoke body, caulking tongues of the arc-shaped caulking portions are inserted into caulking grooves of the arc-shaped caulking portions in a lower layer while winding and laminating the band-shaped yoke core piece in a spiral shape.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the forming a laminated yoke body comprises stretching the band-shaped yoke core piece in a longitudinal direction by locally pressing the outer circumferential edge thereof when winding and laminating the band-shaped yoke core piece.

3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising correcting the shape of the laminated yoke body by applying a diameter enlarging force from the inner circumference of the laminated yoke body, after the forming the laminated yoke body and before the coupling the laminated magnetic bodies to the laminated yoke body.

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the convex connection portions in the laminated magnetic body has a tapered shape with a wide front end.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to either of Claims 1 or 2, wherein a minute protrusion is formed at the side of each convex connection portion in the laminated magnetic body.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to either of Claims 1 or 2, wherein after the convex connection portions of the laminated magnetic body are inserted into the concave connection portions of the laminate yoke body, a fixing engagement portion is formed in at least one of the concave connection portion and the convex connection portion through a pressing process

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein in the forming the laminate yoke body, caulking portions are in advance in the band-shaped yoke core pieces, the band-shaped yoke core pieces are coupled to each other by the use of the caulking portions in a caulking manner, and the caulking portions or peripheries of the caulking portions including the caulking portions are pressed locally.

8. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein the area where the periphery of each caulking portion including the caulking portion is locally pressed is an area which is widened from the caulking portion toward the outer circumferential edge of each band-shaped yoke core piece.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the caulking tongues of the arc-shaped caulking portions are tilted downwardly in a direction opposite to the winding direction at the time of winding the band-shaped yoke core piece.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the caulking tongues of the arc-shaped caulking portions are tilted downwardly in the winding direction at the time of winding the band-shaped yoke core piece.

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic core piece constituting the laminated magnetic body is made of a material having a iron loss smaller than that of the band-shaped yoke core piece constituting the laminated yoke body.

13. – 25. (Cancelled)